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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
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THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI		AEC						
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REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 24 Nov 1954

SUBJECT 88-mm., S-T-88 Anti-Aircraft Gun

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DATE OF INFORMATION

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Technical University

students, went to Brno casernes in January 1954 to study an anti-aircraft gun as a part of their paramilitary training. They traveled in covered trucks. students studied the AA gun for two days, two hours each day. One Air Force colonel told them this was the largest and the newest type of AA gun that the Soviet Union had produced. The students were forbidden to take notes during the course and no technical manuals or charts were used. They were told that this training was classified "secret" and that it was not to be discussed after leaving the classroom. A Czech Air Force colonel told them that the AA gun used during the course for instructional purposes was the latest AA weapon given to Czechoslovakia by the Soviets.

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Details of the AA Gun (Refer to page 3 for Sketch of AA Gun.)

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2. The gun barrel could be elevated to a maximum of 80 degrees and the barrel traversed to 200 degrees. as soon as any resistance was felt while traversing the barrel, it had to be turned immediately in the opposite direction. The diameter of the muzzle brake was 25 cm. and the diameter of the barrel measured 15 cm. The length of the gun barrel, including the muzzle brake, was four meters.

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This AA gun had only one barrel. It was mounted on a four-wheel carriage which was not self-propelled but pulled by a truck. The gun was permanently mounted on the carriage and was

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not movable unless dismantled.

The students were shown three AA guns of this type; two other AA guns of the same type were parked near one of the caserne buildings and six men were detailed to man each gun. The guns studied by the students were not in permanent emplacements but were set on the ground. Gun barrels were pointed by students and the instructor by turning hand wheels, 20 cm. in diameter. The gun barrel was manually controlled by two men, one controlled the azimuth and the other controlled the elevation.

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3. The colonel who conducted the instruction informed the students that this AA gun could be used against tanks. He explained that some years ago an ordinary armor-piercing shell was unable to penetrate the armored vehicle, for the projectile only "slid down" from the tank when touching it. Later the Soviets invented a new type of armor-piercing shell in which the hard core of the shell was covered with a softer metal, which, when fired at the armored vehicle, would "stick" to the vehicle enabling the piercing shell to penetrate the tank. The students were also told by the colonel that shells used in the AA guns were able to reach a 10,000 to 11,000 m. altitude.

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4. photos of the 85-mm. AA gun M1939. very similar, but the following differences:

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- a. Slots in muzzle brake were longitudinal to the tube.
- b. The top carriage was rectangular in shape.

The nomenclature of the weapon was 85-mm. AA Gun S-T-88.

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Approximately 20 of these weapons were seen at different times and at various casernes.

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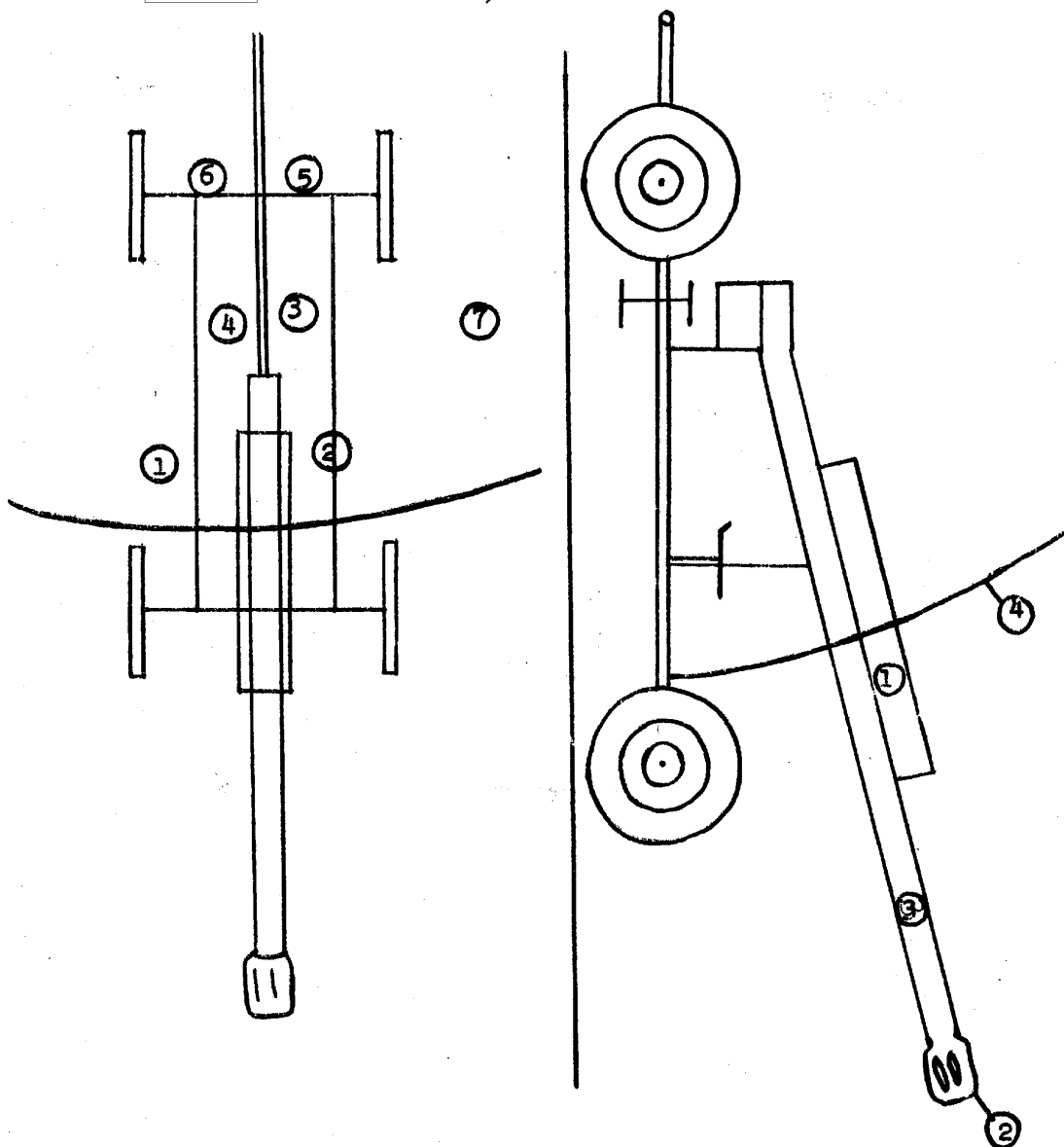
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Sketch of 88-mm., S-T-88 Anti-Aircraft Gun

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Legend

1. Azimuth Setter
2. Elevator Setter
3. Fuze Range Setter
4. Loader
5. First Relayer
6. Second Relayer
7. Gun Commander

Legend:

1. Recuperator
2. Muzzle Brakes
3. Barrel
4. Armor Shield

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